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WRL NEWS

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CO RIGHTS PETITION PRESENTED AT UN

A War Resisters International-initiated petition bearing the signatures of 32,750 persons from 25 nations was presented at the UN January 30, 22nd anniversary of Gandhi's death.

The petitioners "call upon the UN Commission on Human Rights to recognize conscientious objection to military service as a human right."

The petitions, with these words in various languages, were handed to Edward Lawson, deputy director of the Commission on Human Rights, by a delegation including WRL Chairman Igal Roodenko, Sybil Claiborne and Paul Goodman.

Signed petitions arriving after that date at the WRI or WRL offices will be added to the total and forwarded to the Commission on Human Rights.

WRI Work Day

This same date was observed by WRL-West as WRI Work Day, an occasion on which WRLers would donate their day's pay to the International. Coordinator of this fund-raising effort was Tom Coats. The plan was initiated at last summer's International conference in Haverford, as a means to bolster WRI's international action projects.

Special Issue on Conference

The issue of WAR RESISTANCE WRI's quarterly publication, giving a complete account of the International conference in Haverford is now available from the WRL office—30c.

WRL-WEST SECRETARY GETS TWO YEARS

Randy Kehler, secretary of WRL-West, was sentenced to two years in jail for refusing to accept CO alternative service. He is at the federal prison camp in Safford, Arizona.

At last summer's WRI Triennial Conference, Randy was one of the two Americans elected to the International Council. The other was Dave McReynolds.

"ECLIPSE THE WAR"

Placards with this timely slogan were displayed at the Saturday Times Square Vigil, which on March 7 coincided with the hour of the east coast eclipse. They were photographed by many of the camera-toting passersby and by newsmen reporting the eclipse from "the crossroads of the world."

The date also marked 5½ years since the start of the peace vigil, which is sponsored by WRL and other New York peace groups.

JUDGE JULIUS HOFFMAN . . .

. . . in effigy—courtesy Bread & Puppet Theater—leads mass demonstration in New York February 15 protesting unprecedented contempt sentences of up to four years for the Chicago 7 and their 2 chief attorneys. A second demonstration was conducted a week later after Judge Hoffman imposed maximum 5-year sentences and $5,000 fines on the five defendants found guilty of crossing state lines to create a "riot" during the Chicago 1968 National Democratic Convention. Two were acquitted by the jury and all 7 were acquitted on the "conspiracy" count. Demonstrations like the ones in New York took place in a number of cities across the country.

XUM

Generation Gap?

by Wendy Schwartz

When I first came to work for the pacifist movement I thought this was one place where the generation gap didn't exist. We were all people, bonded by morality and ideology, who were working together toward one common goal—peace on earth. I soon learned that my simplistic evaluation of a group of people interacting was wrong. There is a real generation gap.

I realized a long time ago that I could never convince my father that to eat—or sell—grapes was wrong. Likewise I could never convince my mother that her daughter felt a moral need to commit civil disobedience even if it meant risking a jail sentence. I know that Ralph and Igal and Jim and all the other "over 40" people understand those beliefs of mine.

But I know too that some of those older pacifists will never understand how my generation feels about property. We see nothing wrong with destroying draft files because property means nothing unless it has some intrinsic moral good. And maybe too that's why the raid on the WRL office last spring did not have such a profound impact on the younger peace workers; we have a whole lifetime ahead to build new lists, to decorate new offices. To accumulate new property.

But as willing as the younger people are to destroy files or the offices of war industries and to pay the consequences for their acts, they are not as willing to commit the traditional kind of civil disobedience. It's becoming harder to round up people to sit in—the validity of being a kamakazee picket or vigiler may not transcend the generation line.

For a while the WRL Executive Committee has been wrestling with the problem of what to do about WIN magazine. WIN was originally supported by the WRL because it felt that it needed to reach out an arm to the younger pacifists who might have felt alienated by the tradition-oriented WRL. But now WIN has grown into an independent entity, edited by young people whose values are not conditioned by the same socialization processes that conditioned those of their parents. And the EC shudders quite frequently at the "obscene" language that regularly graces WIN's pages. No amount of explaining—and God knows, I wrote enough answers to such complaints during my period at WIN—will convince some of the elder Committee members, and WRL members, that certain words mean very little to young pacifists other than to graphically describe acts their parents desperately sought euphemisms for.

Within the movement the generation gap has to be harder to deal with. While I may be able to tell my parents that their values are wrong and so I have to reject most of what they taught me in order to find my own morality. I can't honestly tell that to pacifists my parents' age. If the older folks talk of being "radical pacifists" then what name do we have? How much more radical is it to burn a draft file than to lie down in front of a munitions plant? We are all still pacifists; we all still hold human life more sacred than any other thing in the world. But we differ on tactics. And these differences can possibly cause a lack of cohesiveness that will irrevocably split the movement. Right now, pacifists who don't agree with file burning and other more radical activity are willing to support the participants, saying that though they wouldn't participate in such an activity it is their duty to stand behind other pacifists. But at what point will duty cease to be a driving force; at what point will we so totally alienate the older folks that we will no longer have their backing.

The War Resisters League has been perpetuating itself for nearly half a century. Youth groups—like the New York Workshop in Nonviolence—have come and gone. Maybe it's the older folks who have the stamina to do the shitwork that keeps a group going. But maybe it's the young people who have the ideas that make it worthwhile to keep that group going. Maybe we need each other. Our differences are not ideological: it's not communism versus anarchism, it's not violence versus nonviolence. We can't even predict which way the sides of the generation gap will go on a specific question.

At weekend conferences who is it that appreciates the light shows? And who digs setting the first lecture at nine a.m.? I can make an effort to get up an hour earlier if they can risk being freaked by psychedelic lights, but these are superficial differences in lifestyle that only begin to express the basic gap.

We can give lip service to greater understanding—I'll go to your vigil if you'll come to my guerrilla theatre group. I'll sit in at Whitehall Street if you'll accept Gay Liberation as one of our goals. But that's not going to do any more good than my mother giving me a good meal when I get out of jail.

I wish I had answers. I wish I could wrap up this article into a neat conclusion with an all-purpose plan to eliminate the pacifist generation gap. But there is none. So maybe I'm just saying that we have to try harder to understand each other. We all share principles that are too valuable, too sacred to be violated by differences caused by the generation gap. We seek peace in a peaceful way and we share a personal commitment greater than life itself, and squabbles over tactics must not break the strength of our unity.

ENROLLMENT BLANK

Send to War Resisters League
339 Lafayette Street, N. Y., N.Y. 10012

WAR IS A CRIME AGAINST HUMANITY. I THEREFORE AM DETERMINED NOT TO SUPPORT ANY KIND OF WAR, INTERNATIONAL OR CIVIL, AND TO STRIVE FOR THE REMOVAL OF ALL THE CAUSES OF WAR

signature

address

city

state *zip code*

BEFORE DECIDING TO GO TO VIETNAM, read "Close-up of The Grunt—The Hours of Boredom, the Seconds of Terror" by James Sterba. As a service to young men facing the crucial decision, WRL has reprinted this vivid feature article which appeared in the New York *Times* Sunday Magazine, February 8 . . . 10c per copy, 20 for $1

* * *

THE NITTY-GRITTY DETAILS OF ORGANIZING A MASSIVE DEMONSTRATION are outlined in detail in Bradford Lyttle's pamphlet "Washington Action, November 13-15, 1969" $1

IF YOU WANT TO ATTEND ANY OF THE SPRING SESSIONS OF THE INSTITUTE FOR THE STUDY OF NONVIOLENCE, write the Institute for its current program—PO Box 1001, Palo Alto, California 94302.

* * *

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN A JOB IN THE PEACE MOVEMENT OR IN VARIOUS ORGANIZATIONS WORKING FOR A BETTER WORLD, subscribe to the bi-monthly "Vocations for Social Change," Canyon, California 94516. A $5 donation is suggested to cover costs.

A SWIFT TRIP WEST

by David McReynolds

Working full time on the anti-draft week "task force" of New Mobilization has its rough and even surreal moments as when, going to Washington, D.C. on a Friday for a weekend of meetings, I found I was needed in Michigan and, with Susan Miller, caught an early plane Saturday morning and, with considerable difficulty, got back to D.C. early Sunday morning to resume the weekend meeting. After which, back to New York and a weekend in Cleveland trying, along with Jerry Coffin, Dave Hawk, and others, to push Student Mobe into active support of anti-draft week. Mainly, however, it was the twelve-day swing from New York to Minneapolis to Los Angeles, Ventura, Santa Barbara, Stanford, San Francisco, Portland, Pullman, Denver, and Kansas City.

In some places such as Minneapolis, The Resistance is in very strong shape, has excellent people, and has got its thing together, while in Los Angeles, the people are excellent but have dropped out of Resistance. The West Coast Prisoners Information and Support Service (P.I.S.S.) has involved most of the old WRL activists. Reading their bulletin gives a sense of time passing and people moving on and ahead. I remember several years ago giving Mike Swartz a lift home from a meeting, at a time when his role in Los Angeles WRL was tentative, then seeing him again at UCLA a couple of years later, gone half-hippie, sandals and beard. And now, looking through P.I.S.S., finding he is married and into his third month of solitary confinement. (Readers can get P.I.S.S. by sending a contribution and their address to: Western Prisoners' Information and Support Service, checks payable to Paul Encimer, 73 Market Street, Venice, Calif. 90291.) I saw Stan Kohls, who is still loose and has decided not to turn himself in, but to wait until he is located. A kind of quietly free floating one-man underground.

ANTI-DRAFT WEEK—MARCH 16-22

WRL has been helping to mobilize for anti-draft week. David McReynolds worked on New Mobilization's "task force" for the occasion. The League sent out a special 4-page folder to its membership and distributed large quantities of special literature, buttons and posters. But since this issue goes to press March 11, it is too early to cover the week's events and too late for a mobilization story.

Plans call for leafleting at high schools, vigils, marches, etc. climaxing March 19 with nonviolent actions aimed at closing down draft boards and induction centers.

It was like déjà-vu to find Ron Raitt in charge of my time in Southern California—Ron works for the AFSC and looks very much like Walt Raitt, his father, who used to work for the AFSC when I was Ron's age and just getting into peace work in Los Angeles. A very good meeting in Ventura, where I hardly expected one, organized by a sharp young fellow whose name I cannot now locate in my notes. Santa Barbara for a couple of small meetings and the next day, reading that all hell had broken loose, including the burning of a bank, and feeling I should have stayed on one more day to see the national guard. In Palo Alto The Resistance has gone into the printing business and was not able to help much. Saw Roy Kepler again and had a too brief a look at his book store, and met with Larry Diamond from Moratorium.

In San Francisco I got a chance to stay with The Resistance commune and had David Loy get me to a couple of meetings. Very solid men and women all of whom had just come out of jail after thirty days for blocking an induction center. Met with WRL people, and they are heavily into tax resistance for April. (Note: those of draft age who would like material on The Resistance might want to write—depending on where they live—TCDIC NEWS (Twin Cities Draft Information Center), 529 Cedar Ave., Minneapolis, Minn. 55404 or write The Resistance, 1601A Page Street, San Francisco, 94117. In either case, send some contribution along. These mimeographed items are the life of the movement, in some ways more so than WRL News. Attorney General Mitchell can always close our office in New York—but there are a lot of mimeo machines around the country.) It was, I think, in Ventura—but I traveled so far and fast I lost track—that someone handed me a beautiful booklet of photos and a few lines of text on *why* resistance— it was put together by David Totheroh and Rex Weyler in 1969 and there is no address on it, but it was the kind of affirmation of nature, of life, of dignity, that is behind The Resistance.

Portland, Oregon, and utter confusion because advance arrangements were not made and it was only because Steve and Sandy Kossakof between them are so damn efficient that a couple of good raps were put together. Then up to Pullman, Washington, flying through snowstorms, for a large meeting with students there, on the border of Washington and Utah.

I felt there, as I had when in Cleveland recently, that the High School students are terrifying sometimes because they are so much sharper than I was when I was in High School. Then Denver, Colorado, and overnight in the huge almost sinister old three story mansion rented by The Resistance and assorted groups and individuals. A house so massive the occupants seemed to rattle around in it. But Moratorium there, under Helen Shreves, was doing great work—as Pat Hansen in Pullman had really dug into war tax resistance. And then Kansas City for a good meeting at Neuman House to plan the March 19 action. Norman Tjossen of the AFSC office does an impressive job in a difficult city. And so back home. There are things unmentioned—I stayed at a commune in Los Angeles, which means three communes visited and obviously that is something new. I must remember to get Ray Leier to make me a silver ankh, so I can hold onto it for luck during air travel. The point is the movement is very much alive, whether in a stronghold like San Francisco, or an outpost like Pullman, or a relatively large but "non-movement" place like Kansas City. It was good to cross the trail of Mike Cullen, one of the draft file burners. We disagree deeply on tactics, but Mike is the kind of person who puts his position so gently it makes it possible for both sides to keep thinking things through.

So, back to New York, late at night, just in time to catch a 7:30 Metroliner for Washington and the final meeting of the "task force" for anti-draft week.

XUM

CANADA REPORT

by Ralph DiGia

As the WRL representative on a delegation of peace groups, I recently visited with American exiles in Toronto, Ottawa and Montreal. This trip grew out of a concern to give material aid and to show peace movement support for the Americans (figures range from 20,000 to 60,000) who, as draft resisters or military deserters, are choosing to leave their homeland rather than take part in the Vietnam war.

I saw young Americans — uncertain, nervous — going through the initial counseling process. The counselor patiently explained, guided, instructed the new arrivals step by step on how to go about applying for landed immigrant status. Then he suggested a temporary home and supplied some money, if necessary. This goes on all day, day after day. The ratio used to be 5 resisters to one deserter; since last November it has been the other way around—5 deserters to one resister.

I saw young men who had been waiting weeks for landed immigrant status which would permit them to work. During this period the Canadians house and feed them. There are groups which have organized classes for teaching French, Canadian history, Canadian problems, etc. to help bridge the cultural gap for the new immigrants.

I saw young Canadians-to-be who had jobs, who were settling into the community and who were helping the new arrivals from America. And when I say Canadians-to-be, that's what I mean These fellows are there to stay and are proud of it.

Our group went to Canada with the feeling that these men needed financial help along with our moral support. We thought we might bolster their spirits. This idea didn't turn on any of our exiled friends. They felt that if it helped raise funds, OK. But, otherwise, it wasn't that important. As a matter of fact, they counter-proposed that Canadians be invited to speak at rallies in the U.S. They felt it was important to let Americans know how it really is in Canada. Canadians are sick and tired of American imperialism-economic and cultural. They become incensed when they hear of Americans feeling sorry for their poor boys in Canada—as if Canada had nothing to offer these young men. It is too much of a cultural shock for Americans to believe that Canada might be a better place to live in.

Most of the young men I met were happy and relieved to be in Canada. They have been touched by the warm welcome given them by Canadians. Yes, it is true that most Canadians are indifferent, but many are very friendly and the hostile ones are rare.

Amnesty? This is not an issue with these men. They are in Canada to become Canadians. Some are bitter about their former homeland. This anti-American feeling helps them fit into the general anti-American Canadian scene. When they think of America, they think of how they can as Canadians oppose America's role on the world scene. If the US grants amnesty, it will be more to help regain our "honor" than to help the young Americans who were forced to flee our borders.

What would they like us to do to help them? First, money. Money is needed to help these men when they first arrive, to house and feed them. Most come with very little money and since they cannot work legally until they have been granted landed immigrant status, their financial need is great during this period. And it is the Canadians who are straining financially to house and feed our brothers. Second, publicize Canada as an alternative to the draft and the military. On this score, I felt that we certainly should present Canada as one of the alternatives but certainly not present it as *the* alternative. Third, create a climate of understanding in the U.S. for the exiles. One of the saddest things is that 90% of the parents, we were told, are opposed to the stand their sons have taken. The peace movement can help by publicizing why these young men had to leave and what things are really like in Canada.

Personally, my first reaction to seeing all these young men leave the U.S. was one of sadness and a feeling that it was a loss to our peace movement. Well, in a way it is. However, one must remember that the fact of tens of thousands of Americans fleeing the U.S. is in itself a political factor which helps the peace movement in its push to end the war. On the other hand, I now feel that what the U.S. peace movement has lost, the Canadian peace movement has gained and thus our ties with the Canadian peace movement have been strengthened.

FIELD TRIP

Jerry Coffin, WRL Projects Secretary and able-bodied wayfarer, has been traveling around the country visiting local peace centers, spreading nonviolence, and learning how you people out there make peace. He was planning to do a report on each place he visited, but as we go to press he's on his way to Boston and probably has the copy in his pocket.

So the next WRL NEWS will carry a full summary of his trips. He has so far visited the Delaware WRL; and groups in Albany, N.Y. on the east coast. His swing through the midwest took him to Columbus, Canton, Cleveland, and Akron.

How a Colorado Student Found WRL

(from a letter by John Borga from Gunnison, Colorado)

"I came upon your organization by way of Gary Cox of Denver. It seems that in distributing your literature, he encountered the wrath of his reactionary neighbors who wrote the Denver Post attacking the tactics used by your League. Cox wrote a reply a few days later giving his address and phone number and offering to further explain war resistance to anybody interested enough to contact him.

"From what I now know of the League, I find its tactics more than honorable. You have outlined a nonviolent blueprint for opposing war. It seems to me that you are sincere in asking for peace and that you have chosen to combat the violence in Vietnam through nonviolent methods. Nonviolence is often the most difficult path but in the end it is the most successful.

"If these are your goals—an end to war through nonviolent force and an end to those institutions which perpetuate war, then you have my support and I would like to join."

XUM

MEXICO REPORT

by Jim Peck

As a consequence of the growing interest of Mexican students in nonviolent action, my 10-day vacation in Mexico City in early February turned into a speaking tour. I had arrived with only one speaking engagement—at Villa Jones, a Mexican-American cultural center. I wound up with five speaking dates and invitations for two more, had I been able to stay longer.

My first invitation after the Villa Jones talk came from Alfredo Rodriguez, son of Professor Ismael Rodriguez, an old friend of mine and a person respected in anti-Establishment circles. Alfredo attends the National Polytechnic Institute's School of Biology. The students had just concluded a 1-week strike which had won certain gains and were holding a where-do-we-go-from-here session.

I addressed the meeting on the topic of nonviolent action, concluded the question period and then joined the audience for a documentary movie. When the lights went on for intermission, Alfredo who was sitting next to me looked around the hall, leaned over to me and whispered: "We'll have to leave now for security reasons."

"What do you mean?" I asked in surprise.

"I see that a number of known 'goons" have infiltrated the hall and I suspect they're going to start something," he replied.

"We don't have to leave on my account," I assured him. "I am experienced in these situations."

"I prefer that we do," he explained "You are our guest here. You are the invited speaker and I would rather avert an incident of this type."

As we walked to the bus, I asked him who these "goons" are. He explained that they are certain students short of funds who accept money from the police to create violent disruptions.

My next two sessions were at the invitation of Pablo Vicente Monroy Gomez, a National University student who heads the Movement of Active Nonviolence. His name had been given me by Glenn Smiley, who has been conducting workshops on nonviolence throughout Latin America and whose article, "Is Latin American Revolution Possible?" appeared in the January-February WRL News.

The group recently had initiated two nonviolent actions. On October 2, anniversary of the police-army massacre of over 50 participants in a student rally in Tlatelolco Square, they deposited bunches of flowers at the site. And during the December-January 40-day hunger strike by 80 imprisoned student leaders, the nonviolent group conducted a sympathy fast inside Mexico City's National Cathedral. In both these demonstrations, the participants were arrested and held for 3 days in jail.

"We didn't know how long we would be held until we got out." explained one of the students. "The leaders of the 1968 student protest have been jailed without trial for more than a year and a half. During our incarceration we were interrogated. I tried to point out that we were simply exercising our constitutional right of freedom of expression but they kept calling us 'agitators'."

First I met with members of Pablo's executive committee for a question period and a couple of days later I spoke before the entire group. The questions were particularly interesting at this session, coming from persons eager to try nonviolence yet skeptical of its success.

One student expressed discouragement at the impossibility of getting publicity in the Mexican news media which is under government censorship regarding student protest. As a January 18 New York *Times* article on the student hunger strike expressed it: "This silence is believed to reflect instructions from the government of President Gustavo Diaz Ordaz which has taken a stern stand against radical student activities since the army smashed disturbances on October 2, 1968."

To alleviate this student's discouragement, I displayed the *Times* article—a 6-column story by Juan de Onis with a photo of militiamen thrusting bayonets at students. I pointed out that such a major story in a leading foreign newspaper had not escaped the attention of the Mexican government. An American in the audience mentioned a story about the Mexican students which had appeared in the Los Angeles *Times*.

Another student felt disheartened because of the smallness of the nonviolent group. I replied by citing my own experience with CORE in the 1940s and 1950s when some of its groups did not number more than 12 and when we would take months to end discrimination at a single restaurant, barber shop or swimming pool. I recalled that it was not until the 1960 lunch counter sit-ins that nonviolence came of age on a mass basis. Furthermore, I added that effective nonviolent action does not necessarily require mass participation. Perhaps the principal doubt expressed was whether nonviolence works specifically in Latin America where Che is more revered than King. When this question arose, I recalled Danilo Dolci's answer a few years ago to Glenn Smiley when the latter asked what position he would take at a forthcoming conference on nonviolence in Latin America. Dolci said he would do nothing to interfere with the Che-type revolutionary activity but was going to Latin America solely to assert that there *is* an alternative—nonviolent action.

The consensus of the meeting—and that of many other students with whom I met—was that nonviolence should at least be given a try. They seemed to realize that resorting to violence to counter the invariable violence of the Establishment is self-defeating.

At my final meeting at the Casa de Los Amigos (AFSC), one student requested that when I return to the U.S., I spread news of the Mexican students' plight.

A LETTER FROM PRISON

PEACE NEWS on March 6 printed a letter headed "New Year's Night in Lecumberri Prison" and signed by five Mexican political prisoners: Victor Rico Galan, Francisco Colmenares, Eduardo Fuentes de la Fuente, Fabio Barbosa and Cesar Catalan.

"This account . . . reached us via a 'pen-pal' of one of the prisoners," says a note explaining how the letter, which describes a violent assault on the political prisoners, reached the outside. No details appeared in the Mexican press and few in newspapers abroad.

The letter tells how on New Year's night (at about the halfway mark of a 40-day hunger strike by 80 imprisoned students), prison officials openly incited a group of non-political prisoners to assault the politicals and raid their cellblocks.

The PEACE NEWS article concludes: "In spite of the harshness of life in the prison, mail at least can get through, PROVIDED IT IS REGISTERED, and friends of prisoners do send books and magazines which are received—addressed to Lecumberri Prison, Mexico D.F., Mexico."

XUM

THE APRIL OFFENSIVE

The Spring Offensive against the American military machine—and, in particular, against the war in Vietnam—continues in full swing in April. February saw actions against repression, while March stressed opposition to the draft.

Under the general slogan "Who Pays? Who Profits?" the Economic Task Force of the New Mobilization Committee to End the War in Vietnam has organized a range of actions for the month of April. The Vietnam War, for which the American people pay some 30 *billion* dollars a year, and which has surely cost the Vietnamese at least two million lives by this time, is a close approach to Orwell's economics of 1984 in which the super powers remained endlessly at war in order to blow up and burn up their excess goods, while leaving the power structure stable.

Look at Vietnam, for a moment, in economic terms alone. A single worker today earns $3.18 less per week in real wages than he earned in 1965. This means that, despite the "war economy," the rate of inflation has left him a bit *less* money now than in 1965. For five years there has been no increase in our standard of living! Now in economic terms the real tragedy is not the loss of the $3.18 a week, but the failure to use 30 billion dollars a year in a creative way. Over the past five years that amounts to 150 *billion* dollars spent on a war which cannot be justified morally or legally and which, in any event, we have lost. (And losing it, after spending all that money, is the ultimate Puritan sin). It is difficult for us to realize how many parks we could have had, how many new hospitals we could have built, how many new classrooms our children could be in, or how much cleaner our water and our air—if only we had never gotten into Vietnam.

There is another economic point to be raised, and it is a point aimed at the very heart of the American corporate structure. The economy was drained of massive amounts of raw materials and countless millions of hours of labor, all translated into napalm, rifles, bombs, bullets. (And, of course, the death of hundreds of thousands). Now who profited? The working class did not—they suffered an absolute (if slight) loss in real wages. The public as a whole did not—they suffered massive neglect of public problems. The Vietnamese, obviously, did not—their nation has been largely destroyed, physically, by the war.

The profit went to the corporations. While our rivers turned to filth, Pan American was coining money by taking in American troops to Vietnam, including, one assumes, the Americans who are on trial for My Lai. (A strange note: research has turned up the fact that Najeeb Halaby, President of Pan Am, holds the post of Chairman of the "National Convocations on the Challenge of Building Peace"—an Establishment liberal group). Olin Mathieson Chemicals, Boeing Aircraft, Honeywell, Gulf Oil—these, and a hundred other massive corporations have made money out of death. While the housing of our cities turned to crime-struck slums, and our air went brown with pollution, these big firms made massive profits.

So . . . In April we want to ask these basic questions about the profits of this war, the reasons why the American system involves itself in these wars, and how we can take collective and personal responsibility to deal with these wars. Liberals say the New Left is paranoid to suggest there are basic American economic interests in war such as Vietnam, but the longer that war goes on the more pressing is the question of *why* we are there if no one in America has a basic interest in that war.

Suggested Actions

On April 14th we strongly encourage people to take some time at work for "Workplace Teachins" where we can sit down, at noon, everywhere in the nation, and discuss the reasons for being in Vietnam and the ways we can end the war.

On April 15 we ask you to consider any (or all) of the following suggestions, in order to make certain that, everywhere in the nation, there is really impressive public witness against the war. Virtually all factions of the peace movement, including New Mobe, Student Mobe, Moratorium (and, of course, WRL) is supporting the April 15th action. We do *not* want mass actions concentrated in one, two, or half a dozen cities. We want the network of towns and villages and cities to see peace demonstrations.

(1) Treat April 15th as a "moratorium day"—i.e., take off. Whatever you normally do, don't. Enjoy spring. Even if it rains that day, enjoy spring. Read a book, see a movie, close your shop, don't report to work, abstain from shopping that day (so that merchants will have a real incentive to close down at least part of the day). If you ar active in the trade union movement, talk up the idea of a work stoppage. In most unions this will not be possible—yet. But the idea needs to be aired. Do not go to class. Do not teach class. Peace offices, also, should be closed.

(2) *Organize Tax Resistance action*—in our view this is the most important single action you can take. Withold $10 from your return. Or withhold everything. Or, if you cannot withhold, file under protest. Take your returns, with the $10 (or everything, or nothing) and go to the IRS office, you may be able to organize a march to the Post Office to mail in the forms. War Tax Resistance is on the final lap of mobilizing tax refusal protest actions April 15.

Try to suggest, publicly, the ways in which the funds that are taxed could be used if they were not spent on death. We urge, as one example that can catch the public imagination and get media coverage if you have thirty people in your area willing to keep out $10 each, that this be pooled and the total of $300 be transferred at a news conference, to some agency in the community that lacks funds. Suggestions will include the Black Panther or Young Lords breakfast programs; child care agencies suffering from budget cuts; pollution control agencies that lack city or federal funds; etc. It would be of special importance to pick projects in the black, chicano, or poor white communities, to link peace and the possibility of funding a social revolution.

(3) Other actions include silent vigils, poster walks with the names of the war dead from that county or state in 1969, public rallies, with movement speakers.

During the last two weeks of April there will be five big stockholders meetings with special public rallies to hit the war corporations. These will be: April 20, Olin, Stamford, Conn., April 22, G.E., Minneapolis; April 27, Boeing, Seattle; April 28, Gulf, Pittsburgh; April 28, Honeywell, Minneapolis; of these, perhaps the action in Minneapolis on April 27 is best organized. For information on how to support the Honeywell action in your own area, write: Economic Task Force, New Mobe, 1029 Vermont Ave., NW, Washington, D.C. 20005.

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